Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 03797 201020Z

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 NSCE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR IT

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT FORD ON RAI

FOR VICE PRESIDENT FORD FROM AMBASSADOR VOLPE

I WAS VERY PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE SUCCESS OF THE INTERVIEW YOU RECENTLY GAVE TO FRENCH TELEVISION. IN MY JUDGMENT, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY BENEFICIAL IF SOMETHING SIMILAR COULD BE ARRANGED FOR ITALIAN TV -- AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD DISCUSSION OF THE BROAD RANGE OF PROBLEMS, DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN, AMERICA IS FACING AND TRYING TO SLVE. I AM, OF COURSE, AWARE THAT THE PARTICULAR TIME FRAME FOR DISCUSSING, INTER-ALIA, U.S.-EUROPEAN RELATIONS IS A MATTER OF IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION BUT, IF THERE SHOULD BE POSITIVE DETERMINATION ON THIS POINT, THERE IS NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY VALUABLE HERE IN ITALY FOR YOU TO PUT THESE ISSUES INTO PERSPECTIVE.

FROM PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS I HAVE HAD WITH OFFICIALS OF RAI, THE OFFICAL ITALIAN TV, I CONFIDENTLY BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT DOING AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU. I AM ALSO CERTAIN THE PEOPLE OF ITALY WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED.

I DO HOPE, MR. VICE PRESIDENT, FOR A POSITIVE REACTION UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 ROME 03797 201020Z

TO THIS IDEA. MY VERY BEST WISHES.VOLPE

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